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Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council on 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/30), and, as specified in paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1910 (2010), in which the Council requested me to report on all aspects of the resolution every four months. This report provides an update on major developments in Somalia since my report of 8 January 2010 (S/2009/684) and assesses the political, security, human rights and humanitarian situation, as well as progress made in implementing the United Nations strategy for Somalia. The report also covers key developments in the counter-piracy activities of the United Nations and the international community.

II. Main developments in Somalia

A. Political developments

2. The Transitional Federal Government and the Transitional Federal Parliament continue to operate from Mogadishu. The Transitional Federal Government is attempting to rebuild and rehabilitate the institutions and infrastructure of Somalia and has pursued efforts to become more representative, credible, accountable and functional. These efforts include preparing and passing a budget for 2010; enhancing financial accountability by hiring the audit services of PricewaterhouseCoopers; collecting revenues from Mogadishu seaport and airport; and operating Radio Mogadishu, which broadcasts 18 hours a day to a wide audience, including members of the diaspora in the region, as well as in Europe and the United States on the Internet.

3. On 29 January 2010, the occasion of the first anniversary of his swearing-in, President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed stated that the Government would focus on ensuring that the people have access to essential services, and on rehabilitating infrastructure. He appealed to the international community to focus efforts not only on political, security, and humanitarian assistance, but also on economic development, especially job creation and the promotion of trade and business. On 28 February, the first anniversary of the formation of the Cabinet, Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke urged the international community to make Somalia a priority on the global political, economic, and security agenda in 2010.

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4. In line with its objective of forming an inclusive administration, the Transitional Federal Government continued to reach out to Somalis outside the peace process. The signing, on 15 March, at the headquarters of the African Union, of a cooperation agreement between the Transitional Federal Government and Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a (ASWJ) constituted a significant breakthrough. The accord, which followed an initial declaration signed on 21 June 2009 by the two parties under the auspices of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS), stipulates the following arrangements: (a) the merging of Transitional Federal Government and ASWJ forces, with the latter bringing its troops under the command and control of the Government; (b) the allocation to ASWJ of ministerial posts and senior positions in the civil and foreign services; (c) the integration of local administrations already established by the Government, wherever applicable; (d) the formation of an advisory council of religious leaders as a counterweight to Al-Shabaab's radical doctrine; and (e) the establishment of a body to monitor implementation of the agreement, comprising UNPOS, the African Union, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

5. In his continuing efforts to engage with regional organizations and the wider international community, President Sharif attended the fourteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held from 1 to 2 February in Addis Ababa, during which the African Union appealed for more support to the Transitional Federal Government and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). On 14 March, the President participated in a conference in the United Arab Emirates, attended by Muslim scholars from across the world. Participants expressed strong support for the Government and urged all Somalis to recognize and support the Government. They condemned all acts of terrorism in Somalia, declared violence incompatible with Islam, and urged peace and reconciliation.

6. The focus in "Somaliland" remains on the presidential elections, now to be held in June. Since its re-establishment in October 2009, the National Electoral Commission of "Somaliland" has been working on preparations, including the introduction of an amended electoral law; the revision and establishment of the voter list; the recruitment and training of electoral staff; voter education; logistical and security arrangements; and printing of election materials. On 14 April, the Commission announced that it would issue new voter registration cards by May to ensure free and fair elections.

7. On 23 February, "Puntland" President Farole decreed a new provisional constitution to transform the region's political system from clan to party-based by 2013. On 1 March, he reshuffled his Cabinet and replaced six ministers, two deputy ministers, his head of intelligence, and the Governor of the Bari region.

B. Security situation

8. The overall security situation in Somalia remains highly volatile and unpredictable. Armed group elements continue to launch stand-off attacks against the Transitional Federal Government and AMISOM forces in Mogadishu, where armed clashes, roadside bombs, and individual killings perpetuate a particularly hostile environment. On 27 April, AMISOM troops foiled an attempted suicide attack on their base in Mogadishu.

9. Continued fighting between Al-Shabaab and Hizbul Islam in Lower Juba and Lower Shabelle, and between Al-Shabaab and ASWJ in the central region has not relented in the last few months. Direct threats to United Nations operations continue in most of southern and central Somalia, especially in Al-Shabaab-controlled areas, including threats of improvised explosive devices attacks, raids, ambushes, targeted assassinations, and abductions. National United Nations staff face direct threats from Armed Group Elements in southern and central Somalia, and the presence of international staff in these regions is now restricted. United Nations compounds in Wajid, Baidoa and Beletweyne were taken over or looted by Al-Shabaab, prompting the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to suspend mine action operations in all Al-Shabaab-controlled areas, effective 17 December 2009. Insecurity still limits the ability of United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes to pursue humanitarian efforts in southern and central Somalia. On 28 February, Al-Shabaab called for the "termination of all WFP operations inside Somalia". On 1 March and 7 April, respectively, the World Food Programme (WFP) compounds in Buale and Wajid were occupied by Al-Shabaab. Since January, approximately 100 United Nations staff members have been relocated from duty stations in southern and central Somalia.

10. In "Puntland", the security situation remains unpredictable, with continuing violent incidents, including armed clashes and assassinations, and frequent improvised explosive devices incidents. Following several attacks since November 2009, in which members of Parliament, a chief justice, security personnel, and civilians were killed, the "Puntland" administration established a committee to assess security and coordinate responses. In "Somaliland" there were no significant security incidents during the reporting period.

11. A major challenge for the Transitional Federal Government has been how to deal with defectors from the extremist groups, as the needs of these individuals may not be addressed through ongoing planning for disarmament and demobilization activities. The Government has thus far set up an interim inter-ministerial committee to address the matter. However, international support to this initiative has been minimal; hence UNPOS is assisting the Government to approach donors and agencies for further support.

C. Piracy

12. According to the International Maritime Bureau, the 217 pirate incidents in the Somali Basin and the Gulf of Aden represented over half of worldwide piracy-related incidents in 2009. During this period, 47 vessels were hijacked, with 837 crew members taken hostage. The Bureau recorded 17 incidents in the first three months of 2010, compared to 41 in the same period in 2009, and attributed the decline to the continued presence of navies in the Gulf of Aden and the adoption of robust anti-piracy measures by merchant vessels. Increasing attacks along the east coast of Somalia and in the Indian Ocean, sometimes covering distances of approximately 1,000 nautical miles from Mogadishu, were observed. In this regard, I welcome the extension of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) counter-piracy activities in this region until 2012, as well as the recent agreement by the European Union (EU) Defence Ministers to expand the objectives of Operation Atalanta, to include improved surveillance of Somali ports harbouring pirates and to "neutralize" mother ships.

13. The Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia held its fifth plenary session on 28 January and reiterated its pledge to continue its counter-piracy activities. As at 23 April, the Board of the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia had approved six projects amounting to $2,094,619.33. Prosecutorial and correctional challenges exist, particularly regarding the establishment and exercise of jurisdiction, the fulfilment of evidentiary requirements, and the attribution of law enforcement powers to military personnel. In this respect, as requested by the Security Council in its resolution 1918 (2010), on 27 April, I intend to present a report in three months on possible options for the prosecution and the incarceration of pirates. Effective coordination of international efforts at sea and on land remains critical. Land-based efforts should be prioritized to effectively address the root causes of piracy.

14. From 10 to 12 January, UNPOS convened a technical meeting in Kampala to discuss counter-piracy coordination mechanisms and strategies to address challenges off the coast of Somalia. During the meeting, delegates from the Transitional Federal Government, "Puntland" and "Somaliland" agreed to establish a technical counter-piracy coordination mechanism to serve as Somalia's focal point for the Djibouti Code of Conduct and to engage with the international community on information-sharing and cooperation. From 27 to 31 March, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) facilitated a meeting in Djibouti, at which the delegates of the Government, "Puntland" and "Somaliland" identified the need for a comprehensive redraft of Somalia's piracy laws. These meetings demonstrate increasing cooperation between the three entities and highlight their commitment to combat piracy.

D. Humanitarian situation

15. According to the latest food security and nutrition assessment, conducted in December 2009 and January 2010 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a widespread humanitarian crisis still exists in Somalia, despite good rains and an above-normal harvest in the southern agricultural areas. 3.2 million people, or 43 per cent of Somalis, need humanitarian assistance and livelihood support, including 1.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). Although the overall global acute malnutrition rates for Somalia have improved, the nutrition status in areas of concern in southern and central Somalia remains unchanged from six months ago, with one in five children still malnourished.

16. WFP temporarily suspended operations in southern Somalia in early January, owing to increased threats and unacceptable conditions set by armed group elements. However, some operations have continued in Mogadishu. There has been no food distribution to over 300,000 IDPs in the Afgooye corridor since November owing to inaccessibility. Another 1.1 million intended beneficiaries are not receiving food distributions throughout the south and central regions. The humanitarian community will monitor the medium and long-term effects of the suspension of WFP activities, especially on nutrition programmes, since the suspension will reduce nutrition coverage in some critical areas. Other agencies, including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), are attempting to cover some of the nutrition support shortfall for the time being.

17. Following an inter-agency risk assessment, the United Nations country team began to implement an enterprise risk management system. A risk management action plan has been agreed by the United Nations country team, which includes recommendations for the development of a database on all United Nations service providers and contractors; the establishment of a "due diligence" process for contracted activities; and the revision of internal controls over cash transfer systems within Somalia. The design phase of the database has been completed, and "due diligence" processes will be implemented as the database is being populated. The revision of internal controls over money vendor cash transactions has been completed. On 11 March, the sanctions Committee Monitoring Group on Somalia released a report (S/2010/91) pursuant to Security Council resolution 1853 (2008), which contained allegations of politicization, misuse, and misappropriation of humanitarian assistance in Somalia. These allegations have been taken seriously by the United Nations country team, which is fully engaged in a comprehensive response and review of the existing risk management strategy to ensure full effectiveness.

18. There is a general shortage of humanitarian funding, which leads organizations, particularly non-governmental organizations, to rely more on the Humanitarian Response Fund. The 2010 consolidated appeal process, which seeks $689 million, was funded at 15 per cent at the end of March, with its non-food portion funded at 8 per cent. Sector-balanced funding must be received early in the year to sustain humanitarian assistance. In addition, stabilization centres and the aircraft providing security and medical evacuation capacity for staff operating in Somalia, which were funded through the Central Emergency Response Fund in 2009, will soon run out of funds.

E. Human rights and protection of civilians

19. The first three months of 2010 witnessed increased fighting in southern and central Somalia, with devastating consequences for civilians and over 110,000 people displaced during that period, which brought the total of displaced persons, as a consequence of conflict, to 1.4 million. In Mogadishu, civilians were increasingly caught in crossfire, mortar attacks and artillery shelling between insurgents and Government forces. In March, the Mayor of Mogadishu issued a statement urging civilians to flee the city as a precautionary measure. International humanitarian law requires all parties to take all necessary precautions to protect civilians; to target only clear military objects; and to use only proportional force. It is crucial to strengthen advocacy for all parties to respect the provisions of international and humanitarian law with regard to protecting the civilian population.

20. Civilians in southern and central Somalia continue to be threatened and abused by armed group elements, stoning, amputations, floggings and other corporal punishments. Such practices contravene international and humanitarian law. In January, a man accused of rape was reportedly stoned to death in Baraawe, Lower Shabelle. In February, Al-Shabaab reportedly sentenced 11 people to one year of imprisonment for robbery in Mogadishu, without due process. In March, several men accused of robbery suffered amputation in Jowhar, Middle Shabelle. Also, women continue to face arbitrary detention, restriction of movement, and other abuses.

21. The right to freedom of expression remains frequently curtailed. There were reports of journalists threatened, mostly in southern and central Somalia. In January, three journalists were injured when unidentified individuals threw hand grenades into the premises of three radio stations in Galkayo, "Puntland", while Al-Shabaab arbitrarily detained four journalists in February and March. In March, two armed groups "decreed" that journalists working in areas that they control must be registered. In April, Al-Shabaab took the BBC Radio off the air in southern and central Somalia.

22. Since November, "Puntland" police have arrested suspects in a spate of killings and attempted killings of prominent figures. Some suspects were tried in local courts and three were reportedly sentenced to death. "Puntland" authorities also forcibly evicted IDPs, reportedly based on concerns that the IDP camps had been infiltrated by radical elements. Among those evicted were 192 households from Tawakal IDP camp in Bossaso.

23. During the interactive dialogue on Somalia at the thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council in March 2010, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia described the situation in southern and central Somalia as extremely serious and issued a strong warning to the international community on the security, human rights and humanitarian situation in the country, including "Puntland" and "Somaliland". Member States, observers, and civil society organizations were particularly troubled by extensive reports of Al-Shabaab's summary executions and mutilations, indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas by all parties to the conflict, pervasive gender-based violence, the conscription of children into the armed conflict, and blocked humanitarian assistance that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

F. Child protection

24. The recruitment and use of children by various parties has increased in the past year. Al-Shabaab reportedly recruits children in southern and central Somalia, "Puntland" and "Somaliland" and trains them in Bay, Bakool, Galgaduud, and Hiran regions, as well as in Mogadishu and Raskiambooni. The Transitional Federal Government is also reportedly recruiting children, although less systematically. While Al-Shabaab and various insurgent groups and militia are responsible for most killing and maiming of children in Somalia, the many child casualties caused by the shelling of civilian areas and indiscriminate return fire by Government and AMISOM troops are a cause for concern.

III. Resource mobilization

25. My Special Representative continued to encourage partners to expedite their contributions to the $196.5 million pledged at the Brussels conference in April 2009 and confirmed subsequently. I am pleased to report that as at 30 April, the total of fulfilled pledges had increased from $77.7 million to $147.6 million, as a result of disbursements made by Belgium and the EU. So far, 75 per cent of confirmed pledges have been received. The EU is expected to release additional funds to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Union.

Furthermore, the United Nations is finalizing an agreement with the Saudi Fund for Development regarding a contribution of $6 million to the AMISOM Trust Fund.

26. In addition to the pledges made in Brussels, approximately $21.1 million was contributed by bilateral donors, of which $11.2 million went to the United Nations Trust Fund for Somali security institutions, $3.6 million to the AMISOM Trust Fund, $340,000 to the Transitional Federal Government, and $5.9 million to the African Union. Of the $11.2 million released to the Trust Fund for Somali security institutions, $10 million was received from Japan for police training and equipment, $1 million from Luxembourg, and $200,000 from Sweden for medical care following the 3 December 2009 attack. Germany has contributed $3.6 million to the AMISOM Trust Fund, for police and non-military purposes; and Italy has disbursed $5.9 million to the African Union bilaterally.

27. To date, the Trust Fund for Somali security institutions has received approximately $12 million in total, whereas the AMISOM Trust Fund has received $28.7 million. In addition, the African Union has received $91.6 million bilaterally.

28. My Special Representative continues to monitor progress in PricewaterhouseCoopers' delivery of fiduciary management services to the Transitional Federal Government. As a result of this facility, established at the request of Somalia's major development partners, China, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Rwanda, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America have commenced bilateral funding to the Government. To date, the Government has received about $3.3 million through this facility, in addition to $340,000 in direct assistance to the Government through the Central Bank of Somalia.

29. The Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, an initiative by the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, was formally established on 28 January 2010, with initial donations totalling over $2 million. The Fund Board comprises 10 Member States, chaired by the Department of Political Affairs, and administered by UNODC. The recently established International Maritime Organization (IMO) Djibouti Code Trust Fund has received $13.6 million from Japan and contributions from France, the Netherlands, Norway and The Republic of Korea.

IV. Activities of the United Nations and the international community

A. International support

30. The 17th meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia took place on 21 and 22 April in Cairo, and focused on the Transitional Federal Government priorities for the remainder of the transition. Participants welcomed the forthcoming Istanbul Conference on Somalia, to be hosted by Turkey in May 2010, pursuant to article 11 of the Djibouti Agreement. The Istanbul Conference will discuss the situation in Somalia, focusing on political and security challenges, including piracy, and on progress made in the reconciliation process and the implementation of transitional tasks. Socio-economic activities proposed by the Government and efforts to strengthen AMISOM will also be examined. An offer by Spain to host the

18th meeting of the International Contact Group in September 2010 was favourably received.

31. On 25 February, the African Union Peace and Security Council appealed for greater support to the Transitional Federal Government, particularly to enable it to deliver basic services to the people. The Council further urged all Member States that have pledged troops to AMISOM to honour these pledges. It expressed appreciation to all donors supporting AMISOM, while noting that this support remains insufficient. The Council attributed the continuing deterioration of the situation in Somalia to increasing internationalization of the conflict. It therefore reiterated its call to the United Nations to impose a no-fly zone on Somalia, to blockade its seaports, and to deploy United Nations operations to help stabilize the country and support its reconstruction.

B. Institution-building

32. The constitution-making process for Somalia has gathered pace. UNPOS and its partners intensified efforts to build the capacity of the institutions tasked with preparing the draft constitution. An induction seminar for members of the Parliamentary Constitution Committee of the Transitional Federal Parliament was held in Djibouti from 21 to 25 January 2010. The seminar was followed by a symposium on the topic "Sharia Law in Constitutions of Muslim Countries, Challenges for the Somali Constitution-Building Process", also held in Djibouti from 6 to 10 February. The symposium included members of the Somali Ulema, a group that had hitherto not participated in the peace process, as well as representatives of the Government and the Transitional Federal Parliament.

33. The swearing-in of new members of the Independent Federal Constitutional Commission, on 2 March, was followed by an induction workshop for the new Commissioners, from 4 to 23 March in Djibouti. The Commission and the Somali Ministry of Constitution and Federal Affairs will require logistical support from the international community for the operations of their offices. In the margins of the induction workshop, the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa, a partner in the constitution-making process, organized a training workshop for parliamentary staff from 6 to 9 March. The workshop was followed by a seminar for the Parliamentary Constitution Committee members, held in Djibouti from 13 to 16 March, on the topic "Sharing of Experiences on the Political Process related to Constitution-making".

34. The broadcasting, in Somalia and Kenya, of discussions in Somali on the constitution-making process is an important development. These discussions pave the way for a civic education programme on the constitution. A draft constitution is expected to be ready in the next few months.

V. Implementation of the three-phased incremental approach

A. Update on implementation of the incremental approach

35. The United Nations pursues its mandated activities through the three-phased approach endorsed by the Security Council in its resolutions 1863 (2009), 1872

(2009) and 1910 (2010). With regard to establishing a "light footprint" in Mogadishu, the second phase in the incremental approach, the first accommodation facilities in a Bancroft compound were completed and approved for use by international staff by the Department of Safety and Security in March. The United Nations has also established space in the UNMAS compound in Mogadishu, which will provide room for 20 visiting United Nations staff and international contractors. Twenty-six missions into Mogadishu were undertaken by WFP, UNPOS, UNMAS, the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA), the Department of Safety and Security (DSS), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and UNICEF, in close coordination with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). The recruitment process for the United Nations regional offices in Somalia is also under way.

36. While the AMISOM force headquarters is in Mogadishu, AMISOM headquarters has been operating from Nairobi for three years. It is planned that 13 staff, including the Special Representative of the African Union Commission Chairperson and other senior personnel, will relocate from Nairobi to Mogadishu as soon as conditions permit.

37. The agreement between the Government of Kenya and the United Nations concerning the status, privileges, immunities and activities of the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA), its personnel, property, funds and other assets, as well as its contractors in Kenya, was concluded on 2 March. In this regard, I extend my appreciation to the Government of Kenya for its continuous support and cooperation with UNSOA and other United Nations offices working on Somalia. In addition, UNPOS and UNSOA merged their administrative support structures, effective 1 January, to achieve greater efficiency and to maximize the use of resources.

B. Strengthening the political process

38. My Special Representative and UNPOS senior management visited Mogadishu and collaborated closely with the Transitional Federal Government to advance the peace process. They also visited "Puntland" and "Somaliland" to engage with the authorities. In this regard, the "Somaliland" authorities have set up a ministerial task force to collaborate with UNPOS on security, human rights, piracy and civil affairs. Following the inaugural meeting of the task force, the "Somaliland" authorities submitted a concept note for a study to identify the factors leading Somali youth to engage in criminal and insurgent activities, piracy and other anti-social behaviour, with the objective of developing a youth policy.

39. On 30 January, my Special Representative attended the thirty-fourth extraordinary session of the IGAD Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa. The Ministers affirmed IGAD's commitment to work closely with the United Nations Security Council and its sanctions Committee to ensure full implementation of resolution 1907 (2009).

40. On 16 March, in Brussels, my Special Representative briefed representatives of EU member States and institutions on the challenges and the achievements of the Transitional Federal Government. He expressed gratitude for the EU training mission to train Somali security forces in Uganda, and for EU efforts to address piracy off the coast of Somalia. My Special Representative further urged the EU to

be flexible in assisting with the payment of stipends to Somali security forces and parliamentarians, and to extend additional support to the Government.

C. Progress towards full deployment and strengthening of AMISOM

41. On 28 January, the Security Council adopted resolution 1910 (2010) requesting me to continue providing a logistical support package for AMISOM until 31 January 2011. The resolution also highlights the need for donors to work closely with the United Nations and AU to ensure adequate funding, particularly to pay salaries to AMISOM troops and to reimburse contingent-owned equipment. While donor funding has been made available for the reimbursement of all categories of contingent-owned equipment for the period ending 23 March, those funds have been exhausted. It is unclear how the next contingent-owned equipment reimbursements, due in June, will be financed. The lack of sustainable funding for future requirements is a major concern, as it could adversely affect the operational capability of AMISOM. I intend to consult with AU and major donors in the coming weeks and to subsequently present proposals in my next report to the Council on how best to address the lack of sustainable funds for contingent-owned equipment reimbursements to AMISOM troop contributors.

42. A significant development was Uganda's deployment of a fourth battalion with NATO airlift in mid-March, bringing AMISOM strength to 6,120 troops. A 40-strong Burundian support team also deployed to AMISOM. In addition, four military staff officers from Ghana, Cameroon, Senegal and Zambia were deployed to AMISOM headquarters in Mogadishu. Furthermore, UNSOA provided airlift for the rotation of a Burundian battalion in mid-April.

43. Of the authorized 270 AMISOM civilian police officers, 40 police officers were deployed, comprising officers from Burundi, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia. Seven police officers arrived in Mogadishu on 28 March, where they began training programmes for the Somali police.

44. The United Nations planning team in Addis Ababa continued to advise and support AU with planning and deployment of AMISOM. It participated in eight predeployment visits to current and potential AMISOM troop- and police-contributing countries and assisted with the deployment of the advance party of AMISOM police to Mogadishu. The team is further assisting AU to manage the roster of 650 AMISOM police officers who have been initially screened for deployment. In addition, the team helped arrange the installation of secure communications in Addis Ababa, Mogadishu and Nairobi to connect the AU headquarters and the field offices through the United Nations global communications network. It also continued to assist and advise the African Union leadership on media relations support for AMISOM. The team is currently assisting the African Union in developing AMISOM mission implementation plans, which are critical for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of AMISOM.

45. UNSOA continues to enhance its logistical support to AMISOM. Significant progress was made in implementing public information activities on the ground, despite growing intimidation from armed group elements. Public information support to AMISOM has commenced across four functional areas: research; press media and outreach; multimedia production; and radio broadcast. A forward team of UNSOA-contracted information support personnel has deployed to Mogadishu to

coordinate and ensure consistency of communication between AMISOM headquarters in Nairobi and Mogadishu.

46. African Union/United Nations-supported Radio Bar-Kulan, configured as an independent radio station on the basis of a public service broadcasting model, commenced broadcasting across Somalia in March. Materials dealing with peace and reconciliation have been developed, including specific programmes for broadcast on the Government-run Radio Mogadishu. Furthermore, existing AMISOM public information outputs are being enhanced and expanded through the redesigning and re-launch of the AMISOM website and print products.

47. UNSOA is gradually upgrading the living conditions of AMISOM troops in Mogadishu through the provision of replacement tents and accommodation stores, as well as steps to enhance kitchen facilities and to improve menu planning and food preparation standards. Replacement tents for five battalions are expected by May. This work is being augmented with the provision of building materials and engineering equipment to help AMISOM contingents improve their facilities. UNSOA has delivered more than 50 kilometres of security barriers to Mogadishu, together with a significant supply of defence stores such as sandbags and razor wire, to help AMISOM improve its protection measures. In mid-March, following deployment of the fourth Ugandan battalion, UNSOA mobilized additional critical life support requirements.

48. The construction of AMISOM headquarters and a level-II hospital in Mogadishu has not progressed as rapidly as anticipated, owing to ongoing procurement delays. Meanwhile, contractors have commenced projects worth $4.5 million for the construction of approximately 7,800 square meters of prefabricated offices and living accommodation, together with associated sanitation, kitchen and dining facilities. The completion of these projects is largely dependent on security in Mogadishu.

49. To ensure appropriate oversight of contractors involved in projects in Mogadishu, UNSOA has established a vendor review committee. In this regard, UNSOA consults the sanctions Committee Monitoring Group prior to awarding contracts to Somalia-based vendors and participates in the risk management system established by the United Nations country team. In addition, UNSOA is establishing a team of contracted personnel to account for United Nations-owned equipment worth $11.2 million, deployed in Mogadishu, and to monitor the delivery of goods and services by contractors.

50. Regular sea shipments from Mombasa, Kenya, to Mogadishu are proceeding smoothly, thanks to escorts provided by the EU Naval Force (NAVFOR). Responding to security concerns raised by AMISOM regarding the approach of UNSOA-contracted ships to the Mogadishu harbour, UNSOA has acquired two hard-hulled patrol boats to enable AMISOM to undertake surveillance and protective operations in the immediate vicinity of the seaport. In the longer term, UNSOA plans to acquire more boats that are better suited for increased patrols in the rough sea conditions off Mogadishu.

51. UNMAS continued to provide training, facilities, equipment and coordination support to develop the AMISOM explosive ordnance disposal capacity. A second six-week explosive ordnance disposal training course was completed in Mogadishu in February. By the end of April, 90 per cent of the training activities for Burundian

and Ugandan contingents planned up to 30 June were completed, including training on the use of mine-protected vehicles. The working group on explosive management policy, established in October 2009, met on 2 February in Nairobi. The construction of the explosive ordnance disposal command and training facility has proceeded on schedule, with completion expected by end of June.

D. Strengthening of the Somali security institutions and development of a national security strategy

Policy and coordination

52. The report on the security sector assessment, led jointly by UNPOS and the United States, with the participation of the Transitional Federal Government, the African Union and EU, was completed in January. This assessment forms part of international efforts to help the Somali authorities prepare a coherent and nationally owned strategy for developing their justice and security sectors. A key conclusion of the assessment is that security sector reform may not be sustainable if a broader political foundation is not firmly established within the time frame of the transition to promote good governance, transparency and accountability.

53. The Transitional Federal Government has shared with UNPOS a draft of its own security sector assessment report, which echoes most of the recommendations of the UNPOS/United States-led assessment. The Government has also shared with UNPOS a draft of its national security and stabilization plan, which is intended to ensure coherence in developing the security and justice sectors. The plan was discussed at the International Contact Group meeting on 21 and 22 April in Cairo.

54. Until the national security and stabilization plan is formally adopted, priorities for 2010 will continue to be based on the findings and recommendations of the joint security sector assessment. The main proposals regarding the police, military and intelligence components are being implemented with funding from the Trust Fund for Somali security institutions. In the short term, the key activities are building the Somali National Security Forces, using a harmonized six-month training curriculum; assisting AMISOM to deliver a predeployment course to new recruits prior to their incorporation into the National Security Forces; continuing police training on the basis of the agreed curriculum, to reach the training target of 10,000 police; and building the capacity of the Ministry of Intelligence.

55. UNPOS assisted the Transitional Federal Government to draft a policy to guide international partners on training issues, including requirements for payment of stipends for at least one year. The policy highlights that the preferred training location is Somalia, notwithstanding the prevailing security environment.

56. The Joint Security Committee remains the principal mechanism for the Transitional Federal Government and the international community to harmonize strategic and technical support on security sector development. Since my last report, the Committee has met several times and is supported, inter alia, by its military and police sub-working groups. UNPOS is assisting Somali efforts to establish a functional Joint Security Committee secretariat in Mogadishu, to enhance coordination between the Government and international partners, and to build confidence with international partners.

Military

57. The provision of predeployment training to Somali forces returning from Djibouti and Uganda, as well as elements of the former "Grey Army" under the Siad Barre regime, has been effectively established. To date, some 2,800 troops have been formed into seven mixed clan battalions of approximately 450 each, under the command of the newly appointed Army Chief of Staff, General Gelle. The formation of mixed clan battalions is an important step in the delivery of a clearly delineated National Security Forces structure under a well-defined chain of command.

58. The Transitional Federal Government, AMISOM and the United Nations agreed to utilize the following curriculums for military training of the National Security Forces: (a) a two-week induction course run by AMISOM at Jazeera camp, near Mogadishu International Airport; (b) a six-month basic recruit course to be undertaken, for the time being, outside Somalia, currently in Uganda; and (c) a four-week reintegration and predeployment course also at Jazeera camp. 720 recruits and 30 officers have now completed the basic course in Uganda and will start the reintegration and predeployment course in Mogadishu in the first week of May.

59. On 7 April, the EU launched a training mission to contribute to the training of the National Security Forces. The training will begin in Uganda on 1 May, in coordination with AMISOM and the Transitional Federal Government. The mission will train a total of 2,000 recruits in 12 months, using the expertise of 140 military trainers from Spain, France, Germany, Portugal and Italy. In this regard, UNPOS is providing technical advice to the EU on military training matters. Those to be trained by the EU will receive six months' worth of stipends from the United States. Additional funds will be required to provide the remaining six months of stipends to those trainees, as per established practice.

Police

60. UNPOS and UNDP, along with AMISOM police, continue to assist the Somali Police Force with training, technical assistance, stipends, non-lethal equipment, and rehabilitation of basic infrastructure. UNDP and UNPOS continue to review options for paying Somali Police Force stipends in a more cost-effective and efficient manner. By the end of March, 2,950 police were registered with the Somali Police Force and entitled to stipend support. In March, a new intake of 500 recruits started the three-month basic police course at the Armo Police Academy supported by UNDP. With UNPOS support, another 500 recruits will begin the basic police course in Djibouti in early May. Within the next three months, 925 Somali Police Force personnel who graduated at the end of March from basic police training in Ethiopia; 860 Somali Police Force personnel previously trained in Ethiopia; and 1,100 Somali Police Force personnel trained in Somalia in 2006 will take a three-week refresher course under AMISOM and UNDP tutelage, which will enable them to become registered and entitled to stipends. The 860 Somali Police Force personnel trained in Ethiopia commenced the three-week refresher course on 7 April in Mogadishu. The training is delivered by 20 Somali Police Force trainers, and is monitored and mentored by AMISOM trainers.

61. It is anticipated that Somali Police Force numbers will reach 8,000 by year end, within an established command and control structure. However, Somali Police Force equipment and infrastructure are still limited, and it remains important to ensure that successful completion of training is followed by stipends support.

Japan's contribution of $10 million to the Trust Fund for Somali security institutions for police training and equipment will help address these key gaps. With these funds, UNPOS is elaborating projects to assist the Somali Police Force with training (three-month basic police training in Djibouti), stipends payment for all Somali Police Force-registered officers (covering the period from January to May 2010), the rehabilitation of 10 police stations in Mogadishu, operational costs, and the provision of police vehicles and police non-lethal equipment. In this regard, 10,000 police uniforms procured by UNDP are available for distribution to Somali Police Force officers who trained under the United Nations umbrella or completed the refresher course and properly registered with the Somali Police Force.

62. In February, the Transitional Federal Government urgently requested Somali Police Force explosive ordnance disposal capacity training, which resulted in the development by UNMAS of an explosive ordnance disposal training package and deployment plan for 60 Somali Police Force police. The initial phase of training was launched by UNMAS on 16 March in Mogadishu. This training will enable the Government to identify unexploded and abandoned ordnance in Mogadishu for clearance and disposal, thus reducing civilian casualties and improving overall security.

Justice and corrections

63. UNDP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court, is identifying immediate, short- and long-term needs in the justice system, including the appointment of judges. At present, only one court is functional in Mogadishu, and provisions are being made for its rehabilitation and of the offices of the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Justice. Training support for judges has been offered by UNDP. During the reporting period, the Chief Justice expressed serious concerns regarding the security of judges and legal personnel in Mogadishu. In the past year more than 10 judges in southern and central Somalia were either killed or forced to leave their functions.

64. Following an agreement with UNDP, UNODC is currently taking the lead in activities related to corrections in Somalia as they relate to counter-piracy efforts. In this context, and in support of counter-piracy efforts, UNODC is working to bring Hargeisa prison up to international health and safety standards and will shortly evaluate and refurbish Bossaso prison. According to the Somalia Deputy Attorney-General, conditions in the Mogadishu Prison are dire and life-threatening, with overcrowding, poor sanitary conditions and access to health care, and inadequate food and water supply.

65. UNDP and the Police Advisory Committee carried out detention monitoring and continue to support civil society organizations providing legal aid assistance. In Mogadishu, 62 persons benefited from legal assistance in February, including IDPs, minority clans, women, minors, elderly and mentally challenged persons. As a result, a third of the detainees were released on account of lack of evidence. Also, 25 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence were registered at the Centre for Health Dialogue and Development and received medical referrals, and legal and psychosocial counselling.

66. UNDP continued its armed violence reduction project and has launched a Somali community assistance framework programme, which aims to increase the capacity of communities and authorities to reduce and manage conflict and violence.

As an initial step, UNDP conducted victimization surveys in Galkayo, Burao, Bossaso, and Lascaanood. These should later be expanded to Mogadishu and Cadale. Preliminary results, based on some 800 questionnaires collected in Galkayo in November and December 2009, indicate that in many communities violence is related to criminality, rather than clan militia activity.

E. Humanitarian, human rights, recovery and development activities

67. In January, consultations on reconstruction and development priorities until 2012 were completed with the Transitional Federal Government, regional authorities, and non-State actors in Nairobi, Hargeisa and Garowe. The consultations concluded that longer-term funding and programmes were needed to address the underlying causes of conflict. An updated recovery and development programme will provide the basis for longer-term strategies of the United Nations, the World Bank, the EU and Norway in the coming years. UNPOS took part in the consultations with the Government, "Puntland" and "Somaliland" authorities, to ensure the inclusion of human rights elements in their development plans.

68. UNPOS accompanied the Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Somalia on his mission to "Puntland" and "Somaliland" in January 2010. The Expert presented his report to the Human Rights Council in March. UNPOS has been collaborating with other agencies and NGOs to strengthen monitoring capacities and to raise awareness on human rights.

69. In 2010, United Nations agencies continued to support the recovery and development programme through their work under the United Nations transition plan. In "Puntland" and "Somaliland", the United Nations undertook capacity development of civil servants in core government functions. United Nations agencies established a land dispute tribunal in Hargeisa and land policy and land law secretariats in both Hargeisa and Garowe. The Hargeisa City Charter Bill was completed and is to be introduced in the "Somaliland" Parliament. The United Nations joint programme on local governance allocated $100,000 to nine "Somaliland" districts for projects, such as water storage, gravel roads, community centres and markets, which were identified through a participatory process and will benefit 66,000 people.

70. Child protection networks working with the United Nations continued to monitor, report and advocate on child protection violations, and to mobilize communities to take action on this issue, including on child recruitment. From November 2009 to January 2010, an estimated 289,000 children and over 296,000 women in all 16 districts of Mogadishu benefited from Child Health Days for the first time. In early March, the second round of Child Health Days, which had been delayed owing to insufficient funding, began in Middle Juba, targeting 430,000 children under five and 480,000 women. Somali officials participated in regional discussions on polio eradication from 5 to 9 March.

71. Approximately 37,000 children, of whom 43 per cent are girls, attended 111 schools in Mogadishu and over 35,000 children, of whom 54 per cent are girls, received primary education through 120 schools in the Afgooye corridor. In January, Hamar Jaabjab Primary School in Mogadishu was opened by the Ministry of Education, benefiting 389 children.

72. Following the seasonal *deyr* rains, an assessment report confirmed that livelihoods had been eroded by conflict, environmental and economic shocks over five seasons, while highlighting that the food security crisis continued. In anticipation of the incoming *gu* rainy season, the United Nations trained 3,000 farmers and distributed sorghum and fertilizer to approximately 29,000 households, while 28,000 households benefited from cash for work activities. Nearly 400 kilometres of canals were completed and rain-water storage systems were expanded in Hiran and Lower Shabelle, and rain water storage systems were expanded by approximately 88,000 square metres in Mudug and Galgaduud regions in central Somalia. In pastoral areas approximately 2.5 million animals were treated and/or vaccinated from 1 January to 31 March, benefiting 70,000 households, while 1,500 pastoral households received four lactating animals each. The construction of 548 permanent houses, three storm-water systems in Hargeisa, Bossaso and Garowe and five solid waste management projects in "Somaliland" were completed. In January, the rehabilitation of one slaughterhouse and two vegetable markets was completed in Burao and Mogadishu.

73. During the first quarter of 2010, the United Nations and partner organizations provided 18,000 IDPs from Dhusamareeb, Galgaduud region, central Somalia, with comprehensive relief kits. Chlorination of water sources was also intensified in locations experiencing an increase in IDPs.

74. While malnutrition remains critical in most of southern and central Somalia and pockets in the north, by early 2010 acute malnutrition rates in Bossaso IDP camps had declined significantly. This may be attributed to the distribution of nutritional supplements, alongside integrated health, food, and water and sanitation interventions that reached approximately 132,800 nutritionally vulnerable children under three years nationwide. Blanket supplementary feeding in early 2010 reached over 54,800 displaced children aged 6 to 59 months in Afgooye and Mogadishu.

75. Over the past three months, WFP has distributed close to 23,000 metric tons of food to some 700,000 Somalis every month, mainly in Mogadishu, central and northern Somalia. WFP activities continue uninterrupted in Mogadishu, with 16 operational community kitchens distributing more than 80,000 meals per day; and food distributions continue in central and northern Somalia to drought-affected and displaced people.

76. As part of efforts to reduce the risks of mines for the civilian population, UNMAS continues to provide mine risk education sessions in communities affected by mines and unexploded ordnance. Additionally, UNMAS has continued to map mine contamination throughout southern and central Somalia, with 10 casualties reported since my previous report. On 12 February, UNMAS took over from UNDP the management responsibility for mine action in "Puntland" and "Somaliland", including the provision of support to the Mine Action Centres and the police explosive ordnance disposal teams in each region.

VI. Observations/recommendations

77. Despite multiple challenges, the Transitional Federal Government has been making strong efforts to improve security and stability in Somalia. In this context, it has begun to raise domestic revenues to fund some of its initiatives, signalling that it intends to gradually become more self-reliant. Recent progress in key areas has

rendered the Government more confident and established it as a serious representative of the interests of the Somalis and a viable partner of the international community.

78. August 2011 will mark the end of the transitional period in Somalia; yet a number of critical transitional tasks, including the drafting of the Somalia constitution, have yet to be completed. I am encouraged that progress was made in the constitution-making process lately. This momentum should be encouraged, as the process has lasted far too long and should be completed soon. It is important that the constitution reflect engagement with a broad cross-section of the Somali people.

79. I am encouraged by the commitment of the Transitional Federal Government to form an inclusive administration by reaching out to those outside the peace process. The 15 March agreement between the Government and ASWJ appears to be a consequence of the persistent openness of the Government to dialogue. I urge the Government to implement this agreement and to keep its door open in the search for inclusive governance and stability. I also invite those who wish to join the peace process to do so without further delay, in the interest of their country.

80. I welcome the effort made by the Transitional Federal Government in preparing its own security sector assessment report and the national security and stabilization plan. Once finalized, the latter should constitute a crucial instrument to develop the Somali security sector in the short and long term. The national security and stabilization plan is also an important tool for strengthening coordination among international partners and for ensuring coherence between the various types of support provided.

81. Despite genuinely striving to move forward, I am concerned that the Transitional Federal Government still lacks the necessary capacity to implement its agenda and that it remains financially dependent on external assistance. The year 2010 is pivotal to the successful implementation of the transitional agenda; any failure in this regard will play into the hands of the extremists and contribute to deepening the plight of the Somali people. I therefore urge the Somali leaders to maintain cohesion and dialogue within the Transitional Federal Institutions and to focus their energies on overcoming the momentous challenges facing their country. I further reiterate my appeal to Member States to urgently release their pledged contributions to the Government. I also urge donors to deliver further direct assistance to the Government trough the PricewaterhouseCoopers facility.

82. Foreign fighters and various other actors continue to fuel the anarchy caused by the conflict, and to profit from it. Some are reaping tremendous benefits from the de facto "free economic zone" that exists in Somalia. I urge Member States to undertake measures to implement the sanctions regime, including resolution 1907 (2009), which imposed targeted sanctions on those jeopardizing the peace process.

83. Ongoing obstruction and intimidation by insurgent elements have hindered the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need. I am concerned that the disruption in food aid delivery will adversely impact the health and nutrition of many Somalis. I remind all parties that they are obligated by international law to allow humanitarian assistance to reach those in need. The lack of adequate funding for humanitarian programmes is already having an impact on the welfare of many Somalis. I urge donors to remain steadfast in their contribution to efforts to meet the urgent needs of 3.2 million Somalis.

84. I have taken note of the recent report of the independent Monitoring Group on Somalia (S/2010/91). The United Nations will further investigate the contents of the report and any irregularities in the management of humanitarian assistance will be addressed properly and expeditiously.

85. I remain deeply concerned about the impact of the conflict on civilians and call on all parties to ensure their protection. I condemn the launching of attacks by extremists from populated areas and demand an end to these attacks. At the same time, any response to such attacks must meet the international humanitarian law requirements of necessity and proportionality. I am also disturbed by continuing reports of threats, abuse and arbitrary detention of journalists, especially by armed groups. These abuses constitute serious violations of the right to freedom of expression. The obligation for all parties to respect human rights is also critical. Pervasive impunity is unacceptable and should be addressed. All those abusing the rights of the Somali people will be held accountable.

86. I congratulate the Transitional Federal Government and the regional authorities of "Puntland" and "Somaliland" on their contribution to updating reconstruction and development priorities for 2010. I appeal to donors to continue providing multi-year commitments that match the needs identified in the recovery and development programme, in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action on aid effectiveness.

87. I wish to acknowledge the critical efforts made by the African Union, especially through AMISOM, and IGAD to stabilize Somalia. I welcome their enhanced collaboration with the United Nations, particularly with my Special Representative. I pay special tribute to AMISOM troops, who continue to operate undaunted in a difficult and dangerous environment. AMISOM has recently increased its troop level, drawing closer to its authorized strength. I reiterate my call to the international community to urgently extend to the African Union, AMISOM and IGAD the required support to discharge their mandates. Particularly important is the need to raise the stipends paid to AMISOM troops to a level comparable to that of United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to reimburse lethal equipment to the troop-contributing countries.

88. I urge the Transitional Federal Government to intensify its efforts, especially in the areas of political reconciliation and outreach, security, stability and delivery of services. It is also critical that the international community fully embrace the existing opportunity for lasting peace and stability, notably by strengthening its effective presence inside Somalia and by further coordinating its actions. A thorough review of the way the international community works on Somalia from Nairobi would send a positive message to our regional, continental and international partners.

89. Optimal coordination and joint programming between leading United Nations actors on Somalia are critical to maximize the impact of our activities. To that end, I intend to review the implementation of the United Nations strategy for Somalia, in connection with my policy on integration of United Nations operations. I will submit to the Security Council my findings and options for ensuring United Nations coherence and coordination on Somalia. In the meantime, steps will be taken to operationalize the joint planning unit within the office of my Special Representative, which will include members of the United Nations country team, to ensure

coherence and alignment of United Nations efforts in the political, security and socio-economic programmatic dimensions.

90. The United Nations continues to implement the three-phased incremental approach, as outlined in my report of 16 April 2009 (S/2009/210) and as endorsed by the Security Council. I intend to keep its implementation under review to identify areas of improvement.

91. Finally, I express my deep appreciation to my Special Representative for his continued dedication and commitment to advancing peace and national reconciliation in Somalia. I pay tribute to the men and women serving in UNPOS, UNSOA, the United Nations country team, the United Nations planning team, and other relevant organizations, as well as to members of the non-governmental humanitarian community who operate under difficult conditions. I call on the Somali people and other Member States to continue to extend unwavering support and cooperation to my Special Representative and his office.